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MECCANO MAGAZINE

TO HELP MECCANO BOYS TO HAVE MORE FUN THAN OTHER BOYS

EDITORIAL.

The Meccano Guild.

The announcement of this important boys' movement has met with all the success which I hoped for it, and I trust that all my readers will carefully study the Secretary's report on its progress. I want you all to share in the benefits and enjoyment which the Guild will give you. Every new recruit strengthens the movement, and hastens the day when the Meccano Guild will be one of the greatest powers for good in the land.

Meccano a National Hobby.

With rare exceptions all the boys in Great Britain now use Meccano, and look upon it as their greatest and best indoor recreation. It is firmly established as a national boys' hobby, and its strength grows from day to day. We have not yet reached the limit of progress, and there are rare times to come for all Meccano boys.

Meccanoland.

I do not want any of you boys to miss reading this fascinating book. It tells of the land "where dwell the happy boys," and it also contains an interview which one of these boys had with Mr. Frank Hornby, the Inventor of Meccano. If you have not had your copy send for it at once.

New Parts.

The new Meccano parts which have recently been introduced have broadened out the system enormously, and I strongly advise you to study them seriously. They mean new models, better models, new and delightful mechanical movements, and more fun. The Inventors' competition, particulars of which were sent with the last *Meccano Magazine*, offers a series of fine prizes for the use of these new parts, and I want to see as many entries as possible.

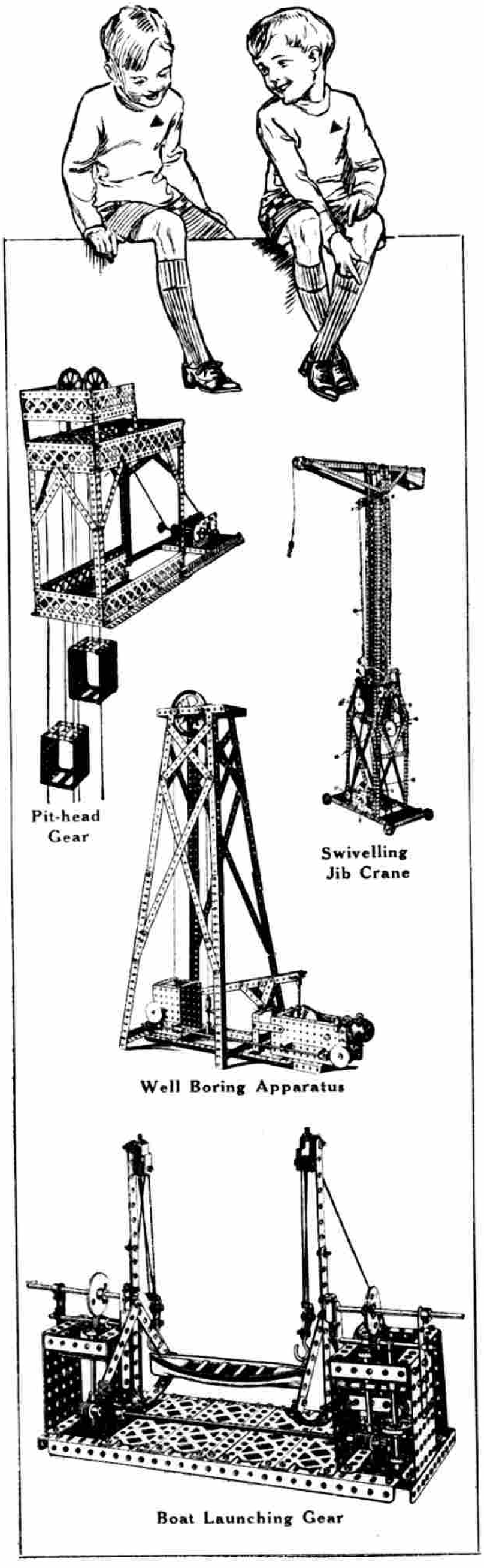
Our Grand £200 Competition.

Entries for our big Competition are coming in freely, and the demand for entry forms is much greater than we have ever experienced before. There are hundreds of prizes, and every ingenious Meccano boy should make a big effort to secure one.

Subscriptions for the Meccano Magazine.

The *Meccano Magazine* is only posted to subscribers, and each issue runs into scores of thousands. I notify each reader when his subscription has run out, and he should at once send in a renewal subscription in order to ensure receiving further numbers. A number of my readers have notified me of a change in their address without giving me the old address, and this often entails a long search through our records. Both the old and the new addresses should be given when any alteration is notified.

The Editor



The Life Story of Meccano

By Frank Hornby.

(*Continued.*)

As a rule, the transference of machines and plant from one factory to another is attended by almost complete cessation of work for a period and great dislocation of business, but in my case we were able to transfer from my old factory to the new one without stopping for a day. Two large new gas engines were first installed and completely new shafting and belting were set up right through the works. Then each lathe, press and other machine was carried over separately, fixed in its new position and started to work immediately. A great deal of hard work and careful organisation were necessary of course, but the whole removal was conducted without a hitch.

In my old building most of the big presses were set up on boarded floors underneath which were large cellars, and I assure you that when they were all at work the noise was terrific. In my new factory all the floors had been specially prepared with concrete beds to receive presses and other machines of a very heavy type, with the result that there was no vibration and very little noise when the workshops were in full swing.

Our offices and clerical staff were still in West Derby Road, but plans had been completed for a new building to be erected alongside the factory in Binns Road, which should include office accommodation, a fine model room, and a very large room with 25,000 sq. ft. of floor space, to be used for assembling and packing the completed Meccano outfits. The work was begun and pushed forward rapidly, but just before completion the great war broke out and naturally held us back to some extent. Most of you will remember the excitement of this period, and I always look back on that time with feelings of gratitude for the narrow escape which I had from an unpleasant experience. At the end of July I was in Berlin on a visit to the head office of the German Meccano Company, and I anticipated making rather a lengthy stay there. When the trouble broke out and things became so unsettled, I thought it best to get back to England, although I had no notion whatever that my own country could possibly be concerned in the trouble. When I reached home I found that war between this country and Germany had already been declared, and that by a great piece of good fortune I had travelled on the last train which left Berlin for Holland bearing English passengers. If I had delayed another few hours I should certainly have shared the fate of the thousands of unfortunate Englishmen who were afterwards interned in Germany under such trying conditions.

Shortly after my arrival home we were able to transfer over to our new premises, and we very quickly made ourselves at home. Our new great assembling rooms were soon going in full swing, and right throughout the works we settled down to produce Meccano under the happiest and best conditions.

(*To be continued.*)

The Meccano Guild

A Fellowship of Meccano Boys

In our last issue we announced the formation of a Meccano Guild, and it is now our happy privilege to report the progress which this great movement has made so far. That our announcement has received a great welcome from Meccano boys goes without saying, and the secretary and other officials of the Guild have since been hard at work dealing with the thousands of applications for membership, and cordial letters from boys, parents, and employers, giving their hearty approval to the movement and its objects, and promising support. Existing Meccano Clubs have become affiliated with the Guild, and new and sturdy Meccano Clubs are being formed in cities and towns in every part of the Kingdom. Both the Guild Badge and Certificate have been admired and approved of by all who have seen them, and soon they will be a familiar and welcome sight to those who live and move in the wonderful world of boys. In another column the secretary will tell you of the clubs which have already been established and affiliated with the Guild, and as far as space will permit, he will let you know what boys are doing in other centres to found successful clubs.

We want all members of the Guild to hold steadfastly in their minds the objects for which the Guild has been founded; they are as follows:—

(*a*) To make every boy's life brighter and happier.

(*b*) To foster clean-mindedness, truthfulness, ambition, and initiative in boys.

(*c*) To encourage boys in the pursuit of their studies and hobbies, and especially in the development of their knowledge of mechanical and engineering principles.

Those of you who have joined the Guild have approved of these objects and have promised on your honour to promote them by your own example, to be helpful to others, to be clean in thought and habit, and to be determined to learn and make progress. These are no empty phrases, boys; they mean much to you, and if you will faithfully live up to them you will inevitably grow to be sturdy, prosperous, and useful Britons.

Guild Notes by the Secretary

It gives me very great pleasure to talk to members of the Meccano Guild through the *Magazine*, and to tell them how I have enjoyed reading the thousands of letters which they have sent to me during the past few weeks. Although the task has been a big one, I have tried to reply to you all and to satisfy your thirst for information. You all wish to give your quota of help to the great movement, and I believe I have told you how you may do this. Those of you who are members of Meccano Clubs, and those who are busily engaged in forming new Clubs, are keen and enthusiastic, and I have no doubt whatever that, with a little guidance, your efforts will be crowned with success, even beyond your own hopes.

The following is a first list of Meccano Clubs which are being guided by adult club leaders, and have been granted certificates of affiliation with the Meccano Guild :—

Affiliated Clubs.

HOLY TRINITY.. ..	*Leader*—Mr. S. H. Wilson, 29, Thornhill Road, Barnsbury. *Secretary*—Master D. E. Stretton. *Club Address*—Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Richmond Road, Barnsbury, London, N.1.
WALTHAM ABBEY ..	*Leader*—Mr. S. Rogers, 3, Rue de St. Lawrence, Waltham Abbey. *Secretary*—Master E. J. Carter, 5, Rue de St. Lawrence, Waltham Abbey. *Club Address*—Church Room, Quarter Lane, Waltham Abbey.
GOSPORT	*Leader*—Mr. J. Beane, 72, St. Edward's Road, Gosport. *Secretary*—Master H. Beane, 72, St. Edward's Road, Gosport. *Club Address*—Christ Church Institute, Gosport.
WATERFOOT	*Leader*—Mr. R. Teasdale, Wales House, Waterfoot. *Secretary*—Master J. W. Mawdsley, 334A, Edgeside Lane, Waterfoot.
WICKLOW	*Leader*—Mr. R. Sheane, Church Hill, Wicklow. *Secretary*— *Club Address*—C/o Mr. R. Sheane, Church Hill, Wicklow.
ECKINGTON	*Leader*—Mr. B. Bingham, 29, Peveril Road, Eckington, nr. Sheffield. *Secretary*—Master B. Pybus, 17, Peveril Road, Eckington, nr. Sheffield.
WHITLEY AND MONKSEATON.	*Leader*—Mr. G. W. Noble, 75, Eastbourne Gardens, Monkseaton. *Secretary*—Mr. Wilfred Hope, 16, Queen's Road, Monkseaton.
GRIFFITHSTOWN ..	*Leader*—Mr. H. Francis, 2, Park Street, Griffithstown. *Secretary*—Master C. Jordan, 8, Windsor Road, Griffithstown. *Club Address*—Congregational Church, Griffithstown.
SELWYN..	*Leader*—Mr. S. A. Adams, 4, Selwyn Avenue, Highams Park, London, E.4. *Secretary*—Master A. Davies, 1, Coronation Villas, Handsworth Avenue, Highams Park, London, E.4.
SOUTH KIRKBY.. ..	*Leader*—Mr. H. Foster, Manor View, White Apron Street, South Kirkby. *Secretary*—Master S. Forrest, "Roseville," Mill Lane, South Kirkby. *Club Address*—South Kirkby Wesleyan School.
YEADON	*Leader*—Mr. W. F. Roberts, Secondary School, Yeadon. *Secretary*—Master W. B. Yeadon, 33, Kirk Lane, Yeadon.

The following is a first list of Meccano Clubs in existence which will be affiliated with the Guild when formalities are completed, or when they come under the leadership of an adult as the case may be :—

ALDERSHOT	Mr. A. J. Friend, 8, Church Road, Aldershot.
CHATTERIS	Mr. W. Longland, 30, Huntingdon Road, Chatteris, Cambs.
LOZELLS (Birmingham)	Master C. V. Wigley, 16, Leonard Road, Lozells, Birmingham.
SACRISTON	Mr. A. J. Taylor, "Oliveville," Sacriston, Durham.
SHEFFIELD	Mr. G. Angell, 298, South Road, Sheffield.
SUTTON-IN-ASH.. ..	Mr. W. Firth, High Pavement and Portland Square, Sutton-in-Ash.
WORSLEY	Mr. U. Skemp, Newlands, Egerton Park, Worsley.
BARNETBY	Master H. Peart, 8, Victoria Road, Barnetby. Master R. R. Ward, Laurel Villas, Victoria Road, Barnetby.
BEITH	*Secretary*—Master R. Wood, 65, King's Road, Beith.
BLACKPOOL	Master H. Cawthorne, 9, Beech Street, Blackpool.
BRENTWOOD	*Secretary*—Master S. Bruty, 51, North Road Avenue, Brentwood.
BRIERFIELD (nr. Burnley)	Master J. Clegg, 2, Chapel Street, Brierfield, Burnley.
"CATHAYS"	Master C. H. McKnight, 12, Alexander Street, Cathays, Cardiff.
COATBRIDGE	Master J. Ritchie, 47, Coathil Street, Whifflet, Coatbridge.
"DAISY HILL" (West Houghton)	Master J. Platt, 24, Leigh Road, West Houghton, near Bolton.
DOUGLAS (I.O.M.) ..	Master W. B. Hotchkiss, 12, Palace Terrace, Douglas, I.O.M.
"EASTWOOD" (Rotherham)	Master C. E. Humphries, 52, Hatherley Road, Rotherham.
"ELLERSLIE" ..	Master J. C. B. Thompson, "Ellerslie," Bichington, Barnstaple.
GLASGOW (Partick) ..	*Secretary*—Master G. Hay, 28, Gardner Street, Partick, Glasgow.
GLASGOW	Mr. R. R. Robb, 299, Dalmarnock Road, Glasgow.
GRIMSBY	Master S. Young, New Road, Waltham, Grimsby, Lincs. Master N. Duncombe, New Road, Waltham, Grimsby, Lincs.
HANDSWORTH (B'ham)	*Secretary*—Master A. Sheldon, 113, Junction Rd., Handsworth, Birmingham
IRCHESTER	Master R. Bagshaw, Townwell, Irchester.
KELSO	Master G. S. McKellar, 20, Bowmont Street, Kelso.
"KELVINSIDE" ..	*Secretary*—Master A. W. A. Dick-Cleland, 14, Hillhead Gardens, Glasgow.
LEAMINGTON	Master G. Hare, 36, Willes Road, Leamington.
LISCARD	Master H. Burden, 11, St. Mary's Avenue, Liscard.
LONDON (Goswell) ..	Master A. FitzGibbon, 47, King's Square, Goswell Road, London, E.C.1.
"MORAY," (London) ..	Master A. P. Moray, Longthorpe Lodge, 351, Goldhawk Road, W.6.
NANTWICH	Master H. J. McLachlan, Willesden School, Nantwich, Cheshire.
NORTHWOOD	Mr. R. H. Barnes, 24, The Pavement, Northwood, Middlesex.
PENCOED	Master E. Lloyd, The Laurels, Pencoed, Glam.
"PHŒNIX"	Master W. Wild, 97, Suthers Street, Werneth, Oldham.
PORTHCAWL	Master H. Granville, "Ynysowen," Fenton Place, Porthcawl.
"ST. THOMAS," (Exeter)	Master L. Palk, 6, Improvement Place, St. Thomas, Exeter.
"SPORTING SEVEN" ..	Master F. Farley, 4, Carlton Terrace, Sydenham Park, Sydenham, S.E.
"STAPLECROSS" ..	Master K. Hilder, Post Office, Staplecross, Sussex.
STOCKTON-ON-TEES ..	Master W. Dixon, 27, Stanley Street, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees.
SUDBURY	Master A. J. Taylor, 1, Riverside, Sudbury, Suffolk.
SWINTON	Master J. Boiley, 66, Park Street, Swinton, Manchester. Mr. Everley, 114, Station Road, Swinton.
"TAYSIDE"	Master G. Pearson, 52, Seafield Road, Dundee.
"VICTORIA"	Master G. Cooper, 6, Larches Street, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.
WOLVERHAMPTON ..	Master S. Dark, 226, Lea Road, Wolverhampton.
YSTRADGYNLAIS ..	Master H. Hunt, nr. Tawe Bakery, Station Road, Ystradgynlais.

The following is a first list of members of the Guild who are forming clubs. Each one has made substantial progress and will be glad to hear of members in his district who would like to join his club. If one of these boys lives near you do not hesitate to communicate with him. He is a bright enthusiastic Meccano boy just like yourself, and will be glad to have your help and co-operation :—

Members who are Forming Clubs.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS .. Master A. C. McGechan, 7, Hill Road, Barrow-in-Furness.
BIRMINGHAM .. .. Master J. Pridmore, 82, Holloway Head, Birmingham.
LEICESTER ("The United") Master A. M. Bentley, 91, Gipsy Road, Belgrave, Leicester.
BLACKPOOL .. .. Master J. Conway-Hughes, 1, Rutland Gate, Blackpool.
BLACKBURN .. .. Master H. Grimbaldston, 185, Walter Street, Blackburn.
CRAVEN ARMS .. .. Master W. H. Rogers, 18, Newington Terrace, Craven Arms.
CARLISLE .. .. Master C. Sadler, Donald's Court, Union Street, Carlisle.
BOOTLE .. .. .. Master P. H. Mulhearn, 43, Denbigh Street, Bootle.
CARDIFF .. .. .. Master L. Lovell, 60, Cardiff Road, Llandaff, Cardiff.
CANTON (Cardiff) .. Master H. Cook, 28, Romilly Road, Canton, Cardiff.
COLWICK VALE .. .. Master G. Scothern, 19, Park Terrace, Colwick Vale, Notts.
COTTENHAM PARK .. Master C. L. Betts, 49, Durham Road, Cottenham Park.
COXHOE .. .. .. Master F. Smith, Camborne House, Coxhoe, Durham.
DUBLIN .. .. .. Master E. Jackson, Redun Lodge, 188, Rathgar Road, Dublin.
Master J. L. Campion, 12, Mount Shannon Road, S.C. Road, Dublin.
DARLINGTON .. .. Master F. Sesman, 52, Cleveland Street, Albert Hill, Darlington.
DARWEN .. .. .. Master J. Duxbury, 37, Ablas Road, Darwen, Lancashire.
DEAL .. .. .. Master A. W. Lorena, The Hermitage, Upper Deal, Kent.
EPSOM .. .. .. Master S. Doran, 26, Hook Road, Epsom.
EDINBURGH .. .. Master W. Gillespie, 37, Warrenden Park Road, Edinburgh.
FOLKESTONE .. .. Master G. Haywood, 72, Morehall Avenue, Folkestone.
GT. MASSINGHAM .. Master G. H. Leverett, Post Office, Gt. Massingham, King's Lynn.
GATESHEAD .. .. Master E. Fisher, 154, Westbourne Avenue, Gateshead.
GLASGOW .. .. Master M. McFarlane, 58, Old Shettleston Road, Glasgow.
GOODWICK .. .. Master Patrick Duggan, 33, Harbour Village, Goodwick.
GT. YARMOUTH .. .. Master Thos. F. Drury, Camber Villa, 48, Northgate Street, Gt. Yarmouth
HULL .. .. .. Master H. Claxton, 23, Rosamund Street, Hessle Road, Hull.
Master L. T. Greensmith, 70, Clumber Street, Prince's Avenue, Hull.
Master F. Berry, 10, Vane Street, Spring Bank, Hull.
Mr. F. W. Doughty, 47/48, Saville Street, Hull.
HOWDEN .. .. Master P. Moore, Kilpin Pike, near Howden, East Yorks.
HECKMONDWIKE .. Master D. Clarke, St. James Cottage, Heckmondwike.
JARROW .. .. .. Master G. W. Stevens, Gordon House, Field Terrace, Jarrow.
LIVERPOOL .. .. Master H. Teggin, 64, Arnott Street, Walton, Liverpool.
LESBURY .. .. Master N. Gray, near Church, Longhoughton, Lesbury.
LEICESTER .. .. Master A. Whitehead, 16, Cedar Road, Leicester.
LARKHALL .. .. Master J. Campbell, 22, Hamilton Street, Larkhall, N.B.
LONDON .. .. Master R. W. Bradley, 326, Fore Street, Edmonton, N.9.
Master E. Giles, 38, Tonsley Road, Wandsworth, S.W.18.
Master H. J. Bicknell, 19, Smeaton Road, Southfields, S.W.18.
LONDON .. .. Master A. Chantrain, 6 Flat, 7 Block, Cranworth Gardens, Brixton Road, S.W.9.
Master A. Costantini, 37, Bath Road, Plumstead, S.E.18.
Master S. Beamish, 33, Shobden Road, Lordship Lane, Tottenham.
Master W. Booth, 16, Parma Crescent, Clapham Junction, S.W.11.
Master S. E. Witt, 31, Ampton Street, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.1.
Master J. D. Lambert, 1a, Bridge Road West, Battersea, S.W.11.
Master A. Savage, 141, Erlanger Road, New Cross, S.E.14.
Master L. Cale, 39, Llanover Road, Plumstead, S.E.18.
Master H. Bromley, 32, Uxbridge Road, West Ealing, W.13.
Master G. S. Abel, 135, King Henry's Road, Hampstead, N.W.3.
Master W. White, 3, Hampden Street, Harrow Road, W.2.
Master G. E. Burke, 16, Gilbey Road, Tooting, S.W.17.
Master L. Wass, 43, Quick Road, Chiswick, W.4.
Master K. Baker, 59, Holmdene Avenue, Herne Hill, S.E.24.
LOUGHOR .. .. Master R. Davies, Tramor Villa, Loughor.
LEICESTER .. .. Master H. Garlick, 21, Bellfields Street, Market Harborough.
MARSKE-BY-SEA .. Master J. Needham, 11, Victoria Terrace, Marske-by-Sea.
MIDDLESBROUGH .. Master C. J. Booth, 122, Borough Road, Middlesbrough.
MANCHESTER .. .. Master A. Whitwam, 64, Lancaster Road, Fallowfield, Manchester.
MANCHESTER (Pendleton) Master S. Nield, 6, Suffolk Street, Pendleton, Manchester.
NORWICH .. .. Master A. Stephenson, 36, Buxton Road, Norwich.
PARKESTON .. .. Master J. Sandy, Mafeking Villa, Parkeston.
PATRICROFT .. .. Master R. Wishart, 54, Cromwell Road, Patricroft, Manchester.
PONTLOTTYN .. .. Master H. Vernall, 34, Driffryn Street, Pontlottyn.
RAMSEY (I.O.M.) .. Master H. Lancaster, Miramar, Grove Mount, Ramsey, I.O.M.
RAMSEY (Huntingdon) .. Master E. A. Bull, "The Manse," 24, Blenheim Road, Ramsey, Hunts.
ROSYTH .. .. .. Y.M.C.A.
RUABON .. .. Master A. H. Squire, Bryn End, Ruabon.
SYMONDSBURY .. .. Master F. Ackerman, Ryeber Cottage, Symondsbury, Bridport.
THIRSK .. .. .. Master A. C. Wilkmen, 9, Melbourne Place, Sowerby, Thirsk.
TUNBRIDGE WELLS .. Master H. Weire, 48, Upper Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells.
WEDMORE .. .. Master E. Norman, Redhill, Wedmore, Somerset.
WORKINGTON .. .. Master R. Parlett, 13, Southey Street, Workington.
Mr. C. Hamilton, Fisher Street, Workington.
WEST BROMWICH .. Master W. French, 15, Coppice Street, West Bromwich.
WORCESTER .. .. Master R. J. Greenway, 173, Wylds Lane, Worcester.

FURTHER LISTS OF BOYS WHO ARE FORMING CLUBS WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE MAGAZINE.

These lists are by no means complete as I have compiled them within a week or two of the publication of the *Magazine* announcing the Guild, and some weeks before this number will be issued. New clubs are being formed and affiliated every day, and I shall be able to give a further list in the next issue of the *Magazine*.

Club leaders and club secretaries should keep in constant touch with me so that I may let them know our plans for assisting to make the club nights interesting and successful. All the difficulties which they encounter can be solved, and new ideas are coming along all the time for making the meetings of Meccano clubs enjoyable and helpful.

Let me here emphasize the necessity for securing the help of a responsible gentleman as club leader. A club run solely by boys may be started with the greatest enthusiasm, but there is always grave danger of it falling away for lack of just that guidance which an experienced adult can give. To have an adult leader adds strength and dignity to a club; he can naturally see further ahead than a boy, and he will make the meetings much more interesting, orderly, and enjoyable. He can obtain a club room for you, because he is in touch with business people, and others who have considerable influence. He can make the business side of the club run smoothly, for under his wise direction the little differences which frequently arise are quietly regulated. He can help to draw up the syllabus, ensure the orderly running of exhibitions, socials, concerts, &c., and can enlist the support and help of other gentlemen of influence. He may be a Church Minister, a Y.M.C.A. or Boy Scout official, a religious or educational official, or any gentleman interested in boys and boys' work, and you know how helpful a gentleman of this type can be. Do not hesitate to approach him, because he is bound to be interested and sympathise with the work you are undertaking. Let me know that you are approaching him and I will add my persuasion to yours.

I have endeavoured to reply to my thousands of correspondents by letter, but one or two questions have been asked frequently, and they will therefore be dealt with here. Perhaps the most frequent question of all is "Will you please let me know the name of the nearest Meccano club, and the name and address of the secretary?" Whenever it has been possible I have given the desired information, and all members should carefully watch the lists of names and addresses as they are published in the *Magazine*. It must be remembered, however, that the Guild has only been formed for one or two weeks as I write this, and that new clubs are being formed every day. All boys who are desirous of being attached to a club should make active enquiries amongst their friends and when a few of them have been got together who are willing to form a club I will then give them all the help I can by an announcement in the *Magazine* and by referring other boys to them. Every boy who writes to me is keen and eager, but it must be remembered that successful clubs are not the growth of a day but require to be carefully thought out and organised, and although the work is enjoyable beyond anything I know, it is still work, sometimes protracted work, and it has to be done.

A number of boys have written to ask me if it is permissible to wear any other badge along with the Meccano Guild badge. There is no reason whatever why this should not be done. Soldiers and sailors who have won more than one decoration are proud to wear all their badges of honour, whilst doctors and other professional men who gain university honours do not hesitate to use all the titles which indicate the successes which they have won. A Meccano badge indicates the type of boy you are, and the ideals which you have determined to live up to and it will bring you respect from anyone who sees it.

Where two or more brothers or a number of Meccano boys desire to join the Guild but have not got the necessary application forms, they may make application by letter enclosing a remittance to cover the cost of the badges. The proper forms will then be sent to them for signature. Membership will in no case be granted to any boy who does not fill in this form correctly and undertake to promote the objects of the Guild.

It has gratified me very much to receive so many applications for individual membership of the Guild from boys who live in lonely places, and who could not possibly be members of Meccano clubs. Each one is earnest in his desire to attach himself more closely to Meccano and to further the objects of the Guild. I do not wish any boy to feel deterred from joining up because his district is so small that a club is out of the question, or because he is prevented by any other circumstances from giving a night a week to club work. If he is a Meccano boy and has a Meccano outfit, he will add strength to our movement. He will feel in close touch with other Meccano boys; he will know that there are thousands of boys who will welcome him as a friend when they see him wearing the Meccano badge, and his own character will be benefited and strengthened by his adherence to the objects of the Guild. There are more than a million active Meccano boys in this country, and I want them all to feel on terms of equality with each other, to meet as friends, and to feel that they are members of a powerful brotherhood which is destined to prove a tower of strength to our nation.

The President's Message to Members of the Meccano Guild

I have been greatly touched by the prompt and enthusiastic response which Meccano boys have made to the announcement of the founding of the Meccano Guild. Cordial letters of approval have reached me from all parts of the Kingdom, and the warm hand of friendship has been extended to me from thousands of homes where boys have been made happy through their attachment with Meccano. The fellowship of Meccano boys has been founded under happy circumstances for the purpose of bringing together the cleverest, the straightest, and most ambitious boys in the country for mutual enjoyment and help. It is founded on high ideals, and we are all going to work earnestly and steadfastly to establish those ideals throughout the land.

Of the thousands of letters which have come to me recently, none have been more welcome than those which I have received from parents of Meccano boys. A mother in Edinburgh will probably not mind my quoting from a letter which she has sent to me. She says, "Allow me to express my appreciation of the noble work that you are carrying on among our boys. The objects of your Guild are admirable and are sure to prove of great benefit to the nation at large." Letters of this kind are a great encouragement, and they make me all the more determined that all the resources of myself and my Company shall be devoted to making our great new movement successful and maintaining the high ideals which we have set up.

Yours sincerely,

F. Hornby

A New Grand Meccano Prize Competition

£200 in Prizes. 1st Prize, £50 in cash

Now that conditions are getting a little nearer normal we are able to resume our big Contests, and we are again offering prizes to the value of £200 for the best Meccano models. The conditions will be the same as usual, and every boy who has a Meccano outfit has an equal chance of carrying away one of the big prizes.

Don't forget that more prizes are awarded to simple models than to complicated ones. Get your entry form without delay from your regular dealer, or from us if you have any trouble.

There are no entrance fees or restrictions of any kind. The entry form tells you just what to do. The competition closes on March 31st, 1920. The closing date for the Colonies will be extended to May 31st, 1920

ANY BOY CAN ENTER. MORE THAN 200 PRIZES

OUR MAIL BAG

The Editor has a little talk in this column with his Meccano boys. Whether he has space to reply to them all here or not, he is always glad to hear from them. He receives hundreds of letters each day and only those which deal with matters which are likely to interest other Meccano boys can be dealt with here.

Correspondents will help the Editor if they will write on one side of the paper only.

D. L. Webster, Well Hall.—Glad to have your interesting and novel letter. Your Meccano Stall was a good idea, well carried out. We wish we were nearer to you so that we might come to your Concert Party.

T. R. Lawrence, Narberth.—"Since I have had Meccano I have been a happier and brighter boy." From your letter we should say you were a very happy boy indeed. We will try to publish the *Meccano Magazine* oftener.

Winston Thomas, Burnham.—You appear to belong to a thorough going Meccano family and we are pleased to hear that you all get so much fun from the hobby. We hope to hear soon that Ernest has got his outfit.

Edwin Clarke, Pinhoe.—We are interested in hearing that you are now going to take up engineering as a profession, fortified by the knowledge you have gained from Meccano. Every Meccano boy will join us in wishing you all success. Thanks for suggested new parts, which will be carefully considered. You may send in as many models as you like for the Competition.

E. D. Gill, Kingston.—Thanks for cutting from "Daily Mail" mentioning Meccano as a preventative of nerve shock. Competition entry forms have been posted to you.

R. W. S. Parriss, Trowbridge.—"I made a model steam tractor the other day and a lady came in and remarked what a lovely aeroplane I had made. I am disgusted." A most disconcerting experience for you, R. W. S., but then there are some persons who wouldn't know a cabbage from a rose unless it had a label.

Leonard Wright, South Shields.—It would be a very long journey to bring your black kitten all the way to Liverpool, and much as we should like to see it performing its tricks, we think it will be safer at home.

Harold Mason:—

"This toy each boy does love most dear,
And always longs to have it near,
It's always charming as we say
And lo! a new one every day.
I speak of it as 'It,'
For every boy should know
That when we speak of 'It' in toys,
We mean our Meccano."

Your other verses are just as good and truthful, Harold, and we are sorry we have no room to print them.

S. R. Wilson, Goole.—We are sure it will give yourself and your friends pleasure to see your models exhibited in Mr. Thompson's windows, and we hope the Competition will be very successful. Thanks for suggestion and good wishes.

E. Hardy, Osgodby.—"You seem to make Meccano more interesting every time you send a magazine." We certainly try to, and there are many good things still to come. Sorry we cannot help you to secure back numbers of the *Meccano Magazine*.

T. A. Richardson, Oldham.—"Meccano gets better every day. The new parts are absolutely top hole." Meccano boys are making splendid use of the new parts, and the Inventors' Competition is already bringing in some fine suggestions.

Meccano Guild Members' Column

C. Jones, Farnborough.—"I have no chance of joining a Meccano Club as I live in a very lonely part; even the school I attend is five miles away." The Guild extends a warm welcome to lonely boys and will do all in its power to brighten their lives.

H. Alcock, Openshaw.—You should certainly wear your badge whether you are able to form a club or not. I wish you every success in your endeavours.

C. H. McKnight, Cardiff.—The Cathays Meccano Club is a very promising organisation which has my sincere good wishes. You did your friend a great kindness in inducing him to give up his faulty engineering system and take up Meccano. He evidently appreciates this.

C. B. Wood, Leeds.—Neither your age nor lack of time should prevent you from being a member of the Meccano Guild. You approve of its objects, and that is the main thing, and I look to older Meccano boys to set their younger brothers an example.

Roland H. Ward, Barnetby.—Very glad to hear that your club is starting on its career of usefulness and hope your exhibition in aid of your chapel will be successful. Let me know.

Rev. A. B. Grosvenor, Brightlingsea.—I am glad to have your tribute to Meccano, and I welcome you as a member of the Guild. If I can help you in your work amongst boys I hope you will write to me.

W. E. Gillespie.—You have my best wishes in forming your club. The main thing, of course, is to secure an adult club leader to help you.

Norman Boocock, Halifax.—I am quite sure that your Scoutmaster would make an excellent Club Leader, and I hope you will be successful in securing his help. I have written a special letter to him.

Frank Berry, Hull.—"The more you see and play with Meccano the better you like it. By jove, doesn't it improve, first one thing and then another, but the latest, 'The Meccano Guild,' will hit it right on the head this time. It's really fine." I have received letters without number in the same strain, but none more enthusiastic than yours, Frank. I am happy to welcome you as a member of the Guild.

L. Taylor, Manchester.—I was glad to hear from you again, and to know that your Meccano knowledge had proved so helpful to you during your connection with the R.A.F. You are just the kind of boy I want to see taking an active part in a Meccano Club. Let me know if I can help you.

L. T. Greensmith, Hull.—There is a very large number of Meccano boys in Hull, and you should have no difficulty in forming a successful club. F. W. Doughty, of 47, Saville Street, is taking a keen interest in the movement and would no doubt be able to help you.

H. Claxton, Hull.—See my reply to L. T. Greensmith. You have my best wishes.

A. Whitwam, Manchester.—Fourteen members is quite sufficient to commence with and you should be able to form a splendid club. The first essentials are an active Secretary and an adult Club Leader.

The Secretary.

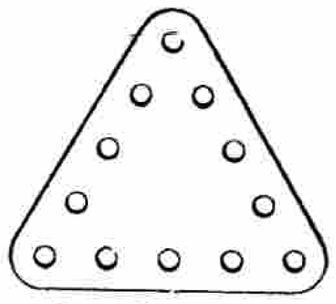
Inventor's Competition

We offer valuable prizes for suggestions for the improvement of any Meccano model by the application of the new Meccano Accessory parts recently introduced.

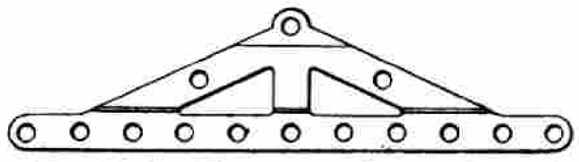
1st Prize—A No. 6 Meccano Outfit, value £9. 0s. 0d.
2nd Prize—A No. 5 Meccano Outfit, value £5. 0s. 0d.
3rd Prize—A No. 5 Meccano Outfit (Carton), value £3. 10s. 0d. Send for descriptive leaflet.

New Meccano Parts

31. Gear Wheel, 1", 40 teeth. Price 1/9 each



76. Triangle, 2½" Price 2d. each



113. Girder Frame. Price 4d. each

How to get the Meccano Magazine Regularly

Under the new Government regulations we are unable to send the "Meccano Magazine" to any one except those who directly apply to us for it. If, therefore, you wish to become a reader of the M.M. it will be necessary for you to forward to us a request for it to be sent to you regularly, accompanied by 2d. in stamps for postage on the next four issues. A double subscription of 4d. will, of course, ensure the next eight numbers being sent to you.

Prices of Meccano

No.				
0	Outfit with full instructions for building			6/-
1	do.	do.		10/-
2	do.	do.		20/-
3	do.	do.		30/-
4	do.	do.		50/-
5	do.	do.	(Carton)	70/-
5	do.	do.	(Wood)	100/-
6	do.	do.		180

No. 6 in well-finished cabinet with lock and key.

Accessory Outfits

No.							
0a	converting a	No. 0	into a	No. 1	..		5/-
1a	do.	do.	1	do.	2	..	11/-
2a	do.	do.	2	do.	3	..	12/-
3a	do.	do.	3	do.	4	..	22/-
4a	do.	do.	4	do.	5	.. .	17 6
5a	do.	do.	5	do.	6	(Carton)	56/-
5a	do.	do.	5	do.	6	(Wood)	95/-
Inventor's Outfit			...	...	...	...	10/-
Meccano Clockwork Motor			...	...	...		12 6

Each Meccano outfit is complete with all parts and tools necessary for building models. Full instructions are included and the youngest boy can commence to build at once without study. An accessory outfit may be purchased at any time, enabling bigger and more interesting models to be built Additional parts may also be purchased separately, at prices given in our published lists.

Remember that though boys play with Meccano for pleasure, and though they get more genuine fun from it than from any other toy, it also gives them a sound knowledge of engineering. Through playing with Meccano, many a bright boy has been started on a prosperous career in one of the most important and profitable professions—engineering and mechanics.

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